

Minutes of a Meeting of the Concordia Council on Student Life Held on January 17, 1997 at 10:00am AD 131 (Loyola Campus)

Present: Dr. D.L. Boisvert, Chair, Ms J. Hackett, Secretary, Dr. S.M. Graub, Ms. N. Torbit, Ms A. Kerby, Mr. R. Côté, Ms A. Ghadban, Prof. B. Barbieri, Mr. H. Zarins, Mr. A. Feldman, Mr. R. Melkonian, Ms E. Robinson, Ms J. Starkman, Ms C. Cogger, Ms S. Kiruluta, Ms M. West, Dr. R. Bonin, Ms L. Lipscombe, Mr. R. MacIver, Ms K. Hedrich

Absent with Regrets: Ms C. Hughes, Ms A. Vroom, Dr. M. Barlow

Absent: Mr. A. Zakka, Mr A. Youness

Delegates: Ms J. Beaudoin replaced Ms L. Prendergast

Guests: Ms. D. Plummer, Mr. V. Pavlicik, Mr. D. Gagnon

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved without changes or additions

2. REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR

Dr. Boisvert wished Happy New Year to Council members and introduced a special guest, Mr. C. Emond, Vice-Rector, Services. Mr. Emond said he was delighted to be invited to the Council meeting and was looking forward to hearing the concerns of Council. Dr. Boisvert informed Council there will be a special meeting to deliberate and approve a donation to the Capital Campaign on March 7th. Documentation on this issue will be sent out in late February.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MEETING OF DECEMBER 6, 1996

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Ms Torbit, seconded by Ms Cogger. The motion was carried.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

a) **CSU Job Bank/Off-Campus Housing Budget:** The CSU budget report on the Off-Campus Housing and Job Bank was distributed. Ms Cogger welcomed any questions on the report. It was agreed that discussion on the report would be deferred until the next meeting in order to give Council members time to read the report. Ms Cogger encouraged members to bring ideas or changes to her before the next meeting. Dr. Boisvert thanked Ms. Cogger on behalf of Council.

b) **Council Budgetary Process 1997-2000:** Dr. Boisvert confirmed that the Student Services Operating Budget will be tabled at the March CCSL meeting. A document outlining the Student Services budget development principles was distributed. Dr. Boisvert explained that these principles will guide us in the way we will propose budget allocations for the next three years. Dr. Boisvert reminded Council that the budget also funds a number of activities (eg IEAC, Job Bank, Off-Campus Housing). He requested

that the students responsible for those activities submit budget requests to him by **February 10th** so that these requests can be included in the March budget submission. Dr. Boisvert explained the requests can be "status quo" or new requests, but should be made within the agreed upon parameters. Mr. Feldman asked if the draft budget could be made available before the March meeting. He also requested that the budget format should be standardized to facilitate reading and comprehension and include a comparison between the 1996-97 budget and the proposed budget. Dr. Boisvert agreed that a draft budget could be available at least a week before the March 21st meeting.

c) **Other Business Arising:** Mr. Feldman asked for an update on the committee formed to look into charges to students groups for audio visual, security, etc. Dr. Boisvert confirmed that a meeting had been scheduled for January 28th.

Ms Ghadban noted that the fee for recreation & leisure activities was now equal for both campuses and she wished to thank Athletics for their prompt action.

Professor Barbieri asked if there had been any more information on how Student Services money is allocated in terms of the Maclean's survey. Dr. Boisvert informed Council he had asked Institutional Research to look into the funding formula. Dr. Boisvert will follow-up on this issue.

Mr. Feldman stated that Space Planning Task Force was able to make a recommendation before Christmas and wished this to be corrected in the December 6th minutes.

5. ITEMS OF INFORMATION

Ms Lipscombe, Director, Bookstores, informed Council that there are some amendments being proposed to Bill C-32. As the Bill is now in its 3rd and final reading, Ms Lipscombe felt it was imperative that the University take a firm stand before the Bill goes to Senate. This bill, if passed, will restrict import of used books and choice of book suppliers. This will impede the Bookstores' service to students, faculty and staff. Dr. Bonin, Director, Libraries, confirmed that no agency in Canada is in favour of these options. The University community was encouraged to contact their Member of Parliament and the Heritage Minister to voice their concern. Dr. Boisvert asked if Council wished to debate a motion. It was the general consensus of Council that they were sympathetic to the concerns expressed but without having read the Bill and the amendments it was difficult to be specific. After discussion, the following resolution was passed:

Be it resolved that the Concordia Council on Student Life is opposed to any legislation that would further restrict access to new and used textbooks

Dr. Boisvert will forward the resolution to Senate.

As Mr. Emond was present, Dr. Boisvert invited him to speak about the Space Planning Task Force. Mr. Emond informed Council there were five guiding priorities:

- 1) to prepare a plan that reduces the University's admissible space by 6000 square metres
- 2) to plan for the consolidation of Engineering & Computer Science and Commerce and & Administration on the Sir George Williams Campus
- 3) to cluster departments from Arts & Science and Fine Arts which will provide a

- clear identity for the Loyola Campus and will facilitate the establishment of synergies on both campuses
- 4) plan for the consolidation of departments in Arts & Science in a rational pattern that will improve the ability of each department to fulfil its academic mission
 - 5) to evacuate the fifth floor of the McConnell Building so that it can be used for its intended purpose (Library space)

There was discussion concerning the issue of rented university space vs owned university space. Mr. Feldman clarified that the decision by the P.Q. Government is regardless of enrollment figures. The government is not prepared to allocate money to rented space. They would prefer the University owned space within government guidelines of allowable space. Mr. Feldman felt it was unclear whether the Task Force would meet again. Mr. Emond said he understood from Dr. Bertrand that the mandate was completed. Mr. Feldman asked if perhaps the Task Force was still a good idea as changes were ongoing. Mr. Emond indicated that he was aware of these concerns. He also confirmed he had received the letter concerning graduate representation on the Task Force. He has not as yet made up his mind whether the Task Force is the appropriate vehicle. He will report back to CCSL on this issue.

6. REPORTS FROM DIRECTORS

As time was limited, Dr. Boisvert asked Mr. Côté if the Financial Aid report could be postponed to a later date. Mr. Côté had no objection.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

- a) **Appointment of Director of Security as Permanent Observer:** Dr. Boisvert explained the background of the permanent observer positions on CCSL and stated the experience has been a positive one. The Director of Security has requested Permanent Observer status on CCSL. This request was approved unanimously.
- b) **CCSL Awards Selection Committee:** The motion to appoint a CCSL Awards Selection Committee was moved by Ms Cogger and seconded by Mr. Zarins. The motion was passed. Dr. Boisvert asked for volunteers for the committee. The composition of the committee is as follows: Dr. Boisvert (chair), Professor Barbieri (Faculty), Ms Ghadban (staff), Mr. Zakka (GSA), Ms J. Starkman (CSU) and Ms C. Cogger (CSU).
- c) **Report of the Task Force on the Funding of Recreation & Athletics:** Ms Kerby introduced the members of the Task Force. She hoped all members of Council had read the report. Ms Kerby then briefly outlined the report. She emphasized that the Task Force was developed to prepare us for the next three year budget; to provide a stable funding base. It is not an evaluation of sports or recreational services. Ms Kerby informed Council that the proposed Student Services Fee would be \$8.83 per credit. The breakdown is \$6.90-Student Services; \$1.93 - Recreation and Athletics. Ms Kerby put forth a motion for CCSL to accept the Task Force Report. Professor Barbieri questioned whether we also accept the recommendations if we accept the report. The motion was amended to read that Council receives the report. The motion was passed. Mr. Feldman questioned the make-up and appointment process of the Recreation & Athletics Board. Ms Kerby stated that points of the membership and board composition are open for discussion or change. She suggested that perhaps these issues could go to a small task force for further refinement. Ms West asked if the Athletic Board was mandated to report to CCSL. Dr. Boisvert confirmed the Board would report to CCSL. Professor Barbieri asked how other University Athletic Departments are funded. As an Athletic

program can attract students to the university, the University should be supporting this service. Dr. Boisvert confirmed that in other universities a separate fee is charged. Dr. Boisvert also wished to clarify that the University does indeed support in many ways that may not be obvious. Mr. Emond gave examples of cleaning, electricity, plumbing, rental facilities which are not provided out of operating grants. The budget for Recreation & Athletics, like other Student Services, is deemed non-admissible by the government, which from the funding perspective means the services are not funded from the regular operating budget. Mr. Emond said in his conversations with the Rector, it was acknowledged there were problems with the facilities on both campuses. It was also noted that other universities demand a greater financial participation of their students. Ms Kiruluta questioned why the Student Services fee did not go down now that it does not include Athletics. The mandate of this Task Force was to look at the funding for Athletics not Student Services. She questioned why Council was voting on Student Services increase now. Ms Kerby replied the Task Force was asked to project three years of expenses. The bottom line is \$6.90 per credit to **maintain** the programs. The Task Force felt it was important to protect the Student Services balance, not to put that balance at risk. Dr. Boisvert said he would guarantee there would be no increase in fees for the next three years if the proposal is accepted. There was lengthy discussion on this issue. Mr. Melkonian stated he would like a clearer picture of where this money will go. With reference to the Athletic fee, Dr. Boisvert explained that upgrading and expansion is not part of this; the \$1.93 is for operating costs only. Ms Kerby explained that the funding formula can be reviewed in three years with the possible result that the fee could be reduced or re-directed. Professor Barbieri expressed concern that this increase would not affect the capital campaign contribution. After a lengthy debate, Mr. Zarins put forth the following motion:

Be it resolved that the fee base recommended in
the Task Force Report be accepted.

The motion was not passed. Mr. Feldman said he did not have a problem with the separate funding base. His concern was the increase in the Student Services fee. He wished a more detailed account of where that money was earmarked for the next three years. Mr. Côté felt that the whole package is what is important. Without an increase, and a separate fee for Recreation & Athletics, we cannot continue to do everything we do. What are our expectations? After discussion and amendments the following motion was proposed:

Be it be resolved that the draft 1997-2000 operating budget for
Student Services reflect the principles outlined in the Task Force
Report;

- 1) an increase of the fee (yet to be determined)
- 2) a separate fee for Recreation & Athletics
- 3) a sheltering for Student Services from the financial risk of
Recreation & Athletics
- 4) the accountability of Recreation & Athletics to CCSL
- 5) reasonable increase in light of the fiscal environment

The motion was passed unanimously. Dr. Boisvert reminded Council that all budgets, including Athletics, will be considered at the March meeting. Ms Hedrich informed Council that although the deadline for fee changes for summer 97 is May 1st, changes made after April 1st make it difficult for students and staff alike. Mr. Emond asked if perhaps changing the name of the Task Force so that it reflects the inclusion of Student Services would be a good idea. This body could explore other options - 0 budget, 50%,

etc. Dr. Boisvert will ask the Directorate to continue the work of the Task Force. He will as well propose a revised composition and mandate for the Recreation & Athletic Board.

d) Other New Business:

Ms Torbit announced the Health Fair will be held on the Mezzanine on January 29-30. Although the deadline to opt out from the health insurance will have past, there will be a representative from the Student Health Alliance to answer questions.

8.NEXT MEETING: The next meeting is February 14, 1997 at 10:00am in Hall 769

9.TERMINATION OF MEETING:

The meeting was terminated at 12:50pm.